

## Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, November 29, 1837, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Private

Hermitage, November 29, 1837.

*My dear sir,* It is a long time since I have recd. a letter from you. I hope you all are not confounded and struck dumb, by the result of the Newyork elections<sup>1</sup> —as for my part, I view it a happy result for the republican cause. the machinations and conspiracy of the conservators with the federal Whigg has, by secrete combinations, produced this result; and the eyes of the whole republican party being now opened to their treachery must unite the republican party in one solid phalanks, and the recoil at the next elections in Newyork will be tremendous. look back to 1798, the days of alien and sedition memory and black cockades, that united the republican party and they overwhelmed their adversaries by *energy and union* —the deception used by the conservators, caused many good republicans to amalgamate with the opposition at the poles, which the great festivals,<sup>2</sup> and rejoicing of the opposition must have undeceived and the recoil must be tremendous. I have no fears for the republic, the south are rallying and uniting, the eyes of the Tennesseans are fast opening, the speech of Bell at the festival in Boston will produce his downfall in Tennessee, his no party party declamations are now beginning to be well understood, he has sold himself to the Federalist, abandoned White, and his whole course must now appear to be what I told the people, to divide the republican

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1 In the elections of November, 1837, the Whigs secured 101 out of 128 members of the New York assembly.

2 Jackson at this point makes the following insertion in the margin: "The Whigg festival at Nashville was quite a failure, I am told only 18 houses lighted. it has done good to the republican cause."

party, and sell the state to the opposition for his own agrandisement. The election of Foster<sup>3</sup> was a severe rebuke to Bell, and shews that the Legislature of Tennessee has lost all confidence in him, and I should not be surprised, if the next Legislature of Tennessee were to elect a senator of a different stamp, on the ground that this Legislature had violated the constitution by electing a senator two years before a vacancy, and thereby usurped the power that belonged to their successors, and the election being brought on in open violation of the pledges of several members to their constituents. All Mr. VanBuren has to do is, to continue on in the evan tenor of his ways, with undeviating firmness, and the people will rally, and sustain him. Energy, *with union* is only now necessary to insure the administration success. Energy is necessary to clean the augean stable in Newyork, and seperate from the Government the treators and conservators, and hold them up to public glare as vile apostates from principle, and unworthy to be trusted by the republicans. *do your duty* , come weal, or come wo. If the divorce bill passes, all will be well, and the south will, I think, all unite upon that at last.

3 Ephraim H. Foster, of Nashville, appointed to take the place of Felix Grundy, resigned, took his seat Dec. 2, 1838. He was elected for the senatorial term beginning Mar. 4, 1839, but resigned Mar. 3.

What must be the feelings of Mr Richie and Mr Rives upon the situation of the country they have brought about—will they join the blue light federalist. Will Mr. Rives and Talmage still patronise the Madisonian, that grecian horse that destroyed Troy, or will they get back to the republicans, or continue their course and take Clay and Webster in their embrace—

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do tell me. I am loth to give up Mr Rives, and hope he may retrace his steps, but his high standing with the republicans he never can regain. Richie will get back after doing great injury to the republican cause, for can any man who loves his government and his country and has common sense advocate the restoration of the revenue to the custody of Banks who have acted so treacherously to the Government and people, and with such bad faith—can any confidence be reposed, that they would not if trusted with the deposits suspend again, and bankrupt the Government at the bidding of foreign agents, whenever they could make twenty five percent profit, by throwing a depreciated paper upon the hands of labour. The people with one voice say divorce the Govt. from all Banks, they have proved treacherous and ought no longer to be trusted. Lash those conservators and traitors with the pen of gall and wormwood—let them feel—no temporising.

I can only add my good wishes to you and all your amiable family in which my houshold cordially join

yr friend